SUBSTANCE ABUSE SCREENING & ASSESSMENT INTRUMENTS APPROVED BY THE NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (03-31-07: revised 4-03-07)

The following instruments are approved for use in assessing DWI offenders. If an agency would like another instrument to be considered for use, please send descriptive material (including validation information) to the Justice Systems Innovations Team for consideration at 3008 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-3008.

Assessment Instruments

1. Court procedures for identifying problem drinkers (Mortimer-Filkens Test)

This two-part test, specifically developed for evaluating DWI offenders, is comprised of a two parts, a 58-item, self-administered questionnaire and a 70 item structured personal interview.

2. Driver Risk Inventory (DRI)

This 139- item self-report test provides risk level classification categories and recommendations. It is available in English and Spanish versions. Tests can also be given in paper/pencil format.

3. Minnesota Assessment of Chemical Health (MACH)

The MACH is an interactive, computer-based chemical health assessment. The MACH uses a standard set of questions, but it is designed to interact with the client through a process called "branching". This means a client's answer will determine which part of the program is next explored.

4. NEEDS Assessment

This is a 130-item survey, available in English and Spanish that is an expansion of the SALCE. It uses DSMIV classifications for substance use disorders and ASAM patient placement criteria for treatment recommendations.

5. Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and the ASI Multimedia Version (ASI-MV)

The ASI is an assessment instrument designed to be administered as a semi-structured interview in one hour or less to patients who present for substance abuse treatment. The instrument gathers information about seven areas of a patient's life: medical, employment/support, drug and alcohol use, legal, family history, family/social relationships, and psychiatric problems. Using a ten point scale from 0 to 9, interviewer severity ratings indicate the degree of patient problems in each of the seven problem areas, based on historical and current information.

The ASI-MV is a multimedia version of the Addiction Severity Index. It is client self-administered in video and audio format.

6. Substance Abuse/Life Circumstance Evaluation (SALCE)

The SALCE is derived from and includes the ADE (Automated Drinking Evaluation) test. The 98-item SALCE also identifies and evaluates alcohol and drug use as well as identifies areas of stress in the respondent's current life circumstances.

7. Juvenile Automated Substance Abuse Evaluation (JASAE)

This 102-item questionnaire, which is targeted to 12-18 year age group, is based on the same principle as the SALCE, but is geared to the norms and values of the adolescent.

8. Substance Use Disorder Diagnostic Schedule (SUDDS-IV)

The SUDDS-IV is an objective, event-oriented 30- to 45-minute structured diagnostic interview that yields information for the lifetime and current diagnosis of alcohol and other drug dependencies according to DSM-IV/DSM-IV-TR. Diagnostic findings can be determined by the clinician immediately after administration. The SUDDS-IV can be administered by using an interview booklet and scored on an accompanying score sheet.

Screening Instruments

9. Research Institute on Addictions Self Inventory(RIASI)

The RIASI is a 49-item instrument developed as a brief screen to identify individuals who might require a more thorough diagnostic assessment for an alcohol-use disorder and as a potential predictor of subsequent DUI recidivism. It consists of 41 true-false items and 8 items in which the respondent fills in the frequency or quantity of certain behaviors or events. The RIASI represents a careful and empirical development of a screening device for use with the DWI population. Developed specifically for the New York State Drinking Driver Programs, it is now being used in several state(s). As with the MAC, the RIASI is designed to screen for alcoholism using "covert content items," i.e., items which do not directly mention drinking.

10. Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT)

The AUDIT is a 10-item screening instrument developed in 1982, as a result of interest from the World Health Organization in a tool that would be appropriate for a variety of cultural settings. It consists of questions that have reliably identified high-risk drinkers in a six-nation study. They include three questions about alcohol use, four about dependence, and three about problems resulting from drinking. The 10-item AUDIT can be given as a self-administered test, or the questions can be read aloud. The AUDIT takes about 2 minutes to administer. There is also a Spanish version.

11. Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI)

This self-administered, 52 item, true/false instrument identifies chemical abusers regardless of their drug of choice, socioeconomic status, or stage of symptom progression. It is appropriate for ages 13-adult.

12. MacAndrew Alcoholism Scale (MAC)/Revised (MAC-R)

The MAC consists of 49 objective true/false statements included in the 566-item MMPI, which was developed in the 1930s/40s. The MAC-R, also 49 items, was created in the MMPI-2 in 1989. The MAC is designed to screen for alcoholism using "covert content items," i.e., items which do not directly mention drinking. Both MAC and the MAC-R are self-administered tests, work as well for drugs as alcohol, and are easily scored by clerical personnel. Both the MAC and the MAC-R measure the potential for addiction to alcohol and other drugs.

13. Personal Experience Screen Questionnaire (PESQ)

The 38-item PESQ gives a rapid, accurate, and empirically validated measure of adolescent substance abuse in 12-18 year olds.

14. Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test (MAST)

The MAST is one of the most widely used measures for assessing alcohol abuse. The measure is a 25-item questionnaire designed to provide a rapid and effective screening for lifetime alcohol-related problems and alcoholism. It is also useful in assessing the extent of lifetime alcohol-related consequences. Although not intended to be a complete measure of alcohol-related problems, the MAST provides a gross, general measure of lifetime problem severity that can be used for choosing treatment intensity and guiding further inquiry into alcohol-related problems.

15. Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test for Alcohol and Drugs (MAST/AD)

The MAST/AD is a modification of the Michigan Alcohol Screening Test designed to include problems associated with other drug abuse/dependence besides alcohol. It consists of 24 questions, each taken directly from the MAST but edited to include a reference to drug use as well.

16. Triage Assessment for Addictive Disorders (TAAD)

The TAAD is a brief structured interview covering current alcohol and drug problems related to the DSM-IV criteria for substance abuse and dependence. It is intended for use in situations where a basic face-to-face screen or triage for a current diagnosis is desired with t minimum time commitment. The user can document negative findings for those who deny any problems or focus further assessment on positive diagnostic findings. The interview consists of 31 items, takes 10 minutes to administer and 2-3 minutes to score.

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To find out more information about these instruments, go to: http://lib.adai.washington.edu/instruments/